(c) and (d) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is continuously augmenting the International Internet Bandwidth to meet the demand of increasing customer base of broadband as well as Internet Service. As on 03.08.2005, the International Internet bandwidth with BSNL is 1161.5 Mbps.

**Growth in mobile and fixed lines**

1927. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Telecom sector registered a very high growth in the last three years for both mobile and fixed lines;

(b) what is the total number of fixed and mobile lines at present in the country; and

(c) by when the new National Telecom Policy is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Mobile telephone connections have increased from 64,31,520 to 5,67,26,605 in last three years (*i.e.* 1st April, 2002 to 30th June, 2005) and fixed line telephone connections have increased from 3,84,40,906 to 4,65,59,612 during this period.

(b) The total number of fixed and mobile connections are 4,65,59,612 and 5,67,26,605 respectively as on 30.06.2005.

(c) The New Telecom Policy is likely to be announced by the end of 2005.

**Computerisation of Post Offices**

1928. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had sought Rs. 500/- crores from the Planning Commission for including those Post Offices that have not been included in the computerization project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount so far got from the Planning Commission for this purpose;

(d) the number of computers involved in this project, State-wise and District-wise;